

**CONFIDENTIAL**

23 October 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Security

ATTENTION : Employee Activity Branch

THROUGH : Chief,   
DAD/C  
DD/I

SUBJECT : Request for Authorization to Participate in a Panel Discussion at a Conference on Soviet Politics to be Held in Washington on 10-11 November 1961

1. I have been invited by Mr. Kenneth Kerst, chief of the Internal Soviet Branch, Bureau of Intelligence and Research, Department of State, to participate in a conference on recent Soviet political developments to be held at the Brookings Institution in Washington on 10-11 November. The conference is sponsored by the Washington branch of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, a professional body representing scholars in the Slavic field.

2. Mr. Kerst asked that I join him and several other individuals in a panel discussion of the new program of the Soviet Communist party. As I understand it, the new party program will serve as the focal point for a discussion of such topics as the leadership, decision-making, and the Communist party. No prepared texts will be required, and no record of individual remarks will be kept or published. The discussion will, of course, be based on unclassified information readily available to all professionals in the Soviet field. The conference will be open to the public.

3. It is, of course, understood that I will not reveal my Agency affiliation in any circumstances arising in connection with this invitation. If authorization is granted, I request instructions as to an appropriate explanation of my professional status and associations.

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